

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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R 012249Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2474

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 4656

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, SHUM

SUBJ: US STATEMENT IN COMMITTEE III ON RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

1. TEXT FOLLOWS OF STATEMENT DELIVERED OCTOBER 1 BY UNITED STATES REP CLARENCE MITCHELL, IN COMMITTEE III ON ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

QUOTE:

PRESS RELEASE USUN-106(75)

OCTOBER 1, 1975

MR. CHAIRMAN, ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT, I WISH TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR ELECTION TO YOUR PRESENT POSITION. I ALSO WANT TO CONGRATULATE THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND ZAIRE WHO HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO LEADERSHIP POSITIONS. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO NOTE FOR THE RECORD THAT MY NEAR NEIGHBOR, THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF CAMEROON, WAS IN THE CHAIR, MRS. BURNLEY, DURING YOUR ABSENCE AND I CONGRATULATE HER ON THAT OPPORTUNITY. I ALSO HAVE A CHERISHED MEMORY OF MY OPPORTUNITY TO WELCOME ON BEHALF OF MY COUNTRY THE NEW NATIONS OF MOZAMBIQUE, CAPE VERDE, SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SAY THAT AS I LOOK AT THIS BODY IN

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WHICH WE WORK, I CAN SEE THE GREAT OPPORTUNITY WE HAVE

TO CONTINUE MAN'S LONG STRUGGLE TO DEVELOP ASSURANCES OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. IN OUR COUNTRY THERE ARE CERTAIN IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS AND ETHICAL STANDARDS THAT WE HAVE INHERITED FROM OTHER PEOPLES. ONE OF THESE IS THE COMPIATION KNOWN AS THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. THESE COMMANDMENTS, AS WE ALL KNOW, HAVE COME TO US FROM THE ANCIENT PEOPLES WHOSE HOMELAND IS NOW KNOWN AS THE STATE OF ISRAEL. THEY ARE ALSO IMPORTANT CITIZENS IN MANY COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING OUR OWN, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

ANOTHER DOCUMENT THAT HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT GUIDE TO OUR LAW-MAKING IS THE MAGNA CARTA WHICH COMES FROM THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN WHAT IS NOW KNOWN AS THE UNITED KINGDOM. WE ARE ALSO PLEASED THAT WE HAVE INHERITED FROM THE MINDS AND HANDS OF OUR ANCESTORS A GREAT DOCUMENT KNOWN AS THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES. WE NOW HAVE OTHER GREAT DOCUMENTS, THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

THESE HAVE BEEN THE INSPIRATION AND CONTINUE TO SERVE AS GUIDELINES FOR THE SHAPING OF LEGISLATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IT HAS BEEN MY GOOD FORTUNE IN THIRTY YEARS OR MORE OF MY LIFE TO HELP IN SHAPING NATIONAL LEGISLATION OF OUR COUNTRY IN THE FIELD OF JUSTICE AGAINST RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. WE HAVE NOT MERELY SOUGHT TO ELIMINATE RACIAL DISCRIMINATION; WE HAVE ALSO SOUGHT TO ELIMINATE THAT DISCRIMINATION WHICH WOULD BE BASED ON RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR SEX.

I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT A DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF OUR HIGHEST COURT, THE SUPREME COURT, IS MR. JUSTICE MARSHALL, A BLACK MAN, AND TWO OF OUR GREAT SENATORS, SENATOR EDWARD BROOKE OF MASSACHUSETTS WHO IS BLACK AND SENATOR ABOUREZK WHO COMES FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA WHO IS AN ARAB, WERE MINORITIES IN THEIR GREAT STATES BUT NEVERTHELESS WERE ELECTED TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES BY A MAJORITY CONSTITUENCY WHICH IS LARGELY WHITE. THERE ARE SEVENTEEN BLACK MEMBERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN OUR COUNTRY. THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS APPOINTED A WOMEN, MRS. HILLS WHO IS THE HEAD OF OUR

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WHOLE HOUSING PROGRAM IN THIS NATION AND THE DIRECTOR OF OUR COUNTRY'S TRANSPORTATION IN THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET IS A BLACK MAN, MR. COLEMAN. MORE RECENTLY WE HAVE ALSO PASSED LAWS TO PREVENT DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF AGE.

I MIGHT SAY IN ALL OF THIS WE HAVE HAD THE LEADERSHIP OF MANY DISTINGUISHED PERSON WHOSE ANCESTORS HAVE COME FROM OTHER COUNTRIES, FOR EXAMPLE OUR GREAT SENATOR HUMPHREY'S

ANCESTORS CAME FROM THE NATION OF NORWAY AND HE IS ONE OF THE LEADERS OF OUR FIGHT FOR JUSTICE IN THIS COUNTRY. SENATOR JACOB JAVITS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK IS ALSO A PERSON WHOSE ANCESTORS CAME FROM RUSSIA, AND HE IS ONE OF OUR LEADERS IN THE FIGHT FOR HUMAN JUSTICE IN OUR NATION. ONE OF THE GREAT LEADERS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IS CONGRESSMAN PETER RODINO WHOSE ANCESTORS CAME FROM THE NATION OF ITALY.

HOWEVER, WE IN THE UNITED STATES DO NOT CONSIDER THAT THE PASSAGE OF A LAW ENSURES THAT JUSTICE WILL BE DONE. WE KNOW THAT ONCE THE LAW HAS BEEN PASSED IT IS THEN NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT IT BY ACTION. IT IS MY OPINION THAT WE IN THIS BODY, AND MORE PARTICULARLY IN THIS COMMITTEE, ARE NOW AT THE STAGE WHERE WE MUST CONSIDER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LAWS, THE POLICIES, THE TREATIES AND THE PRONOUNCEMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE THROUGH THE YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENSURING THAT THERE WILL BE NO DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ANY PEOPLE OR THOSE OF ANY FAITH, OR THOSE OF ANY POLITICA PERSUASION ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2475

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OUR SECRETARY OF STATE HAS ATTEMPTED TO MAKE THAT CLEAR BY MAKING SPECIFIC ADDRESSEES TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, TO THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND, INDEED, ALSO TO THE ARAB STATES, POINTING OUT CONCRETE EFFORTS ON THE PART OF OUR NATION TO EXTEND THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION.

I RECALL THE GREAT JOY THAT WAS EXPERIENCED IN OUR COUNTRY WHEN THE NEW NATIONS THAT WERE CREATED AT THE CLOSE OF WORLD WAR I CAME INTO BEING. ONE OF THOSE, MR. CHAIRMAN, WAS YOUR OWN NATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WHICH CAME INTO BEING IN 1918. WE REJOICED BECAUSE SO MANY OF THOSE ANCESTORS WHO CAME FROM THOSE NATIONS HAD BECOME CITIZENS OF OUR LAND, THE UNITED STATES. WE REJOICED BECAUSE WE FELT THIS REPRESENTED A HOPE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES AND FOR OTHER PEOPLE. WE HAVE NOT BEEN DISAPPOINTED. WE HAVE SEEN THE GREAT NATION OF INDIA BECOME A SOVEREIGN STATE. ON THE CLOCK OF HISTORY IT IS NOW TIME FOR THE NATIONS OF AFRICA, ASIA AND ISLANDS OF THE SEA TO CONTROL THEIR OWN AFFAIRS.

NOW WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY IN THIS FORUM TO SEE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE FOR ALL TO HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION, OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION, OPPORTUNITIES TO TRAVEL WITHIN THEIR OWN BORDERS AND TO OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD WITHOUT RESTRICTION. IN THIS CONNECTION WE ARE DEEPLY TROUBLED TO THE RESTRICTIONS THAT

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NOW EXIST ON TRAVEL IN EASTERN EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA. WE CAN SPEAK WITH EXPERIENCE ON THIS PROBLEM BECAUSE IN MANY PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE PAST THERE WERE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AGAINST PEOPLE OF MY RACE. I HAPPEN TO BE OF AFRICAN ANCESTRY. THESE WERE CONTRARY TO OUR LAW AND TO OUR CONSTITUTION. WE ARE HAPPY TO REPORT THAT WE HAVE ELIMINATED THEM. AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 13 OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, TRAVEL RESTRICTION SHOULD BE ELIMINATED BY ALL NATIONS. WE HOPE THAT THOSE NATIONS WHICH NOW HAVE SUCH POLICIES WILL SPEEDILY ELIMINATE THEM AND THAT THE UNITED NATIONS WILL USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO ACCOMPLISH THIS PURPOSE.

OUR BEST HOPE OF REALIZING THE NOBLE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IS TO REMEMBER THAT IN THIS BODY WE MUST NOT SIMPLY BE A FORUM FOR CONDEMNATION AND RECRIMINATIONS. THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD ARE WEARY OF FIERY RHETORIC ABOUT PAST INJUSTICE. WHAT THEY WANT TO KNOW IS HOW WE WILL USE THIS GREAT INSTRUMENT KNOWN AS THE UNITED NATIONS TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS OF UNIVERSAL RESPECT FOR THE DIGNITY OF MAN.

I EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT WE WILL BECOME BOTH A MIRROR AND A WINDOW. I HOPE THAT AS A MIRROR WE WILL LOOK AT OURSELVES IN OUR OWN COUNTRIES TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE LIVING UP TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE HIGH GOALS THAT ALL OF US ADVOCATE FOR OUR FELLOW MEN. I HOPE WE MUST ALSO BE A WINDOW THROUGH WHICH MANKIND, LOOKING FROM ANY PART

OF THE WORLD, WILL SEE THE MEN AND WOMEN OF GOOD WILL  
WORKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSE  
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE.  
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